



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

FRIDAY
JULY 23, 1999
VOL. 46 NO. 87

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were unchanged in the West, lower or too few to report elsewhere. Trade sentiment was weak in the East, barely steady to weak in all other areas. Retail demand was disappointing and slower than expected, but food service was slightly better, mostly fair. Supplies were adequate to heavily supplied with discounted prices adding no additional movement. In the parts structure, supplies were at least sufficient with some additional interest reported, but overall still mostly fair. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob to first receivers at major market areas week of 07/26-07/31/99 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A (Including branded product)			COMPOSITE	
AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Bos/New Eng	TFEWR	—		
Chicago	44.00-49.00	35.00-63.50	49.25	26
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—		
Cleveland	TFEWR	—		
Denver	65.50	—		
Detroit	TFEWR	—		
Los Angeles	66.00	—		
New York	49.00-52.00	—		
Philadelphia	TFEWR	—		
Pittsburgh	TFEWR	—		
St. Louis	TFEWR	—		
San Francisco	66.50	—		
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	57.00-61.50	36.50-61.50	59.51	83

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 61.00 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
592	50.00-62.75	59.91
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:		
ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	159.50	3,420
BREASTS - WHOLE	77.50	1,268
THIGH MEAT - B/S	62.00	490
LEG QUARTERS	21.00	7,475
WINGS	51.50	2,229

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Grover T. Hunter (Chief)
	Fax	(202)720-2403	
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman (Officer-In-Charge)
	Fax	(404)562-5875	
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown (Officer-In-Charge)
	Fax	(601)965-4661	
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins (Officer-In-Charge)
	Fax	(515)284-4468	
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Bell, CA	Voice	(323)269-4154	Jim Derby (Officer-In-Charge)
	Fax	(323)269-5926	
	Recorded	(323)260-4676	

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak. Demand was still unaggressive to light with little buying activity occurring. Supplies were adequate to ample and easily handled current needs. In the parts structure, trading was best for wings, but not as active for the remaining items which were mostly fair at best. Availability of wings was balanced to cleared, and at least adequate for the remaining items. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone ranged steady to weak. Preliminary majority prices were unchanged from last week. Offerings were fully adequate for trade needs. Some discounting noted on 3 pound and heavier WOGS. Buying interest was light to fair, mostly light. Demand by restaurants was mostly moderate, best for fast food. The market tone was generally steady for wings, barely steady to weak on breast items.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries were 4 to 5 cents lower in Chicago and TFEWR elsewhere from last Monday's final majority. Whole fryer trade sentiment was barely steady to weak. Retail and food service demand was light to fair, best into resort areas and fast food accounts. In Ohio, movement was reported as better than earlier in the week. Floor stocks were adequate as operators buy hand to mouth. Sizes were desirable to heavy. Parts trading was fair on wings, mixed on the remainder for the adequate to ample supplies. Trade sentiment was steady on wings and leg quarters, barely steady to weak on the balance.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was poor. Offerings were irregularly available and attractively priced. Retail and distributive movement continued to disappoint most dealers. The market tone remained weak. In the parts market, lower prices were starting to attract some additional buying interest. Product was fully adequate to cover current and anticipated limited needs.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds increased slightly into the weekend, but remained disappointingly short of clearing available offerings, particularly on the 3 pound and heavier sizes. Live supplies were mostly moderate; weights were mixed in a full range of light to heavy and were continuing to trend lighter at several plants. Processing schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were again 1 cent lower at 52 to 64 cents. Trade sentiment remained weak and unsettled. In the parts complex, inquiry was similarly disappointing with supplies of all items noted as available for a light and spotty buying interest.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A	
RANGE	50-72
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	57.27
NO. OF BOXES	6,380
CUMULATIVE	07/19/99-07/23/99 59.13
	07/20/98-07/24/98 69.35
NO. OF BOXES	07/19/99-07/23/99 32,262
	07/20/98-07/24/98 47,140

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

JUL 22, 1999

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

JUL 23, 1999

ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS				WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	1,026	130.00-196.50	145-150	148.01	1,105	130.00-196.50	140-145	148.09	5,065	151.22
TENDERLOINS	94	138.00-195.00	-	153.62	190	135.00-200.00	-	170.74	700	162.08
BREAST - LINE RUN	131	70.00-75.00	71-73	72.21	131	69.00-75.00	70-72	71.90	601	72.35
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				1,080	60.24
LEGS	120	26.00-29.00	26-28	27.00	120	25.00-30.00	25-26	26.67	544	27.23
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	352	15.00-20.00	-	17.06	680	14.00-20.00	15-16	15.94	2,534	17.14
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,032	17.00-22.00	18-20	19.32	1,192	17.00-22.00	18-19	19.21	6,254	19.96
WINGS (WHOLE)	211	43.00-55.00	47-49	49.24	171	46.00-55.00	50-52	51.09	961	50.02
WINGS (CUT)	616	57.00-69.00	61-62	61.91	622	57.00-68.00	59-61	61.00	2,887	61.70
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				161	28.83
THIGHS	21	18.00-20.00	-	19.05	TOO FEW TO REPORT				50	21.24
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				88	53.00-72.00	-	57.91	442	58.76

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS*****
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR JUL 22, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

TRADING FOR JUL 23, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S		TODAY'S		5-DAY
RANGE	AVERAGE	RANGE	AVERAGE	AVERAGE
33.00 - 45.50	38.00	32.00 - 45.50	37.49	38.41

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying interest was quite irregular for a Friday with most dealers reporting business as slower than usual. Offerings were readily available with increasingly competitive pricing starting to stimulate some additional buying interest. Movement through most channels was sluggish, but traders hoped that lower prices would encourage some promotional activity. The market tone was generally weak. PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES.

ITEM	JUL 22, 1999			JUL 23, 1999			WEEKLY	
	CURRENT NEG	WTD		CURRENT NEG	WTD		WTD	
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	140-150	157.31	286,400	135-150	152.32	472,640	155.54	2,074,350
TENDERLOINS	-	139.61	29,200	-140.12	125,160	139.48	237,600	65-66
BREAST - WITH RIBS	68-69	77.59	146,160	75.76	217,600	76.58	902,080	65
BREAST - LINE RUN	68	68.15	106,440	63.58	258,280	67.60	696,580	28-29
LEGS	28-29	33.03	166,720	33.37	170,400	33.40	863,160	17
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	17	19.61	303,400	18.57	512,120	19.16	1,723,627	30-31
DRUMSTICKS	30-31	33.38	81,750	32.54	78,610	33.08	390,810	17-18
THIGHS	17-18	28.53	46,920	29.03	52,590	27.04	289,670	70-71
B/S THIGHS	70-71	72.91	27,040	71.63	26,360	71.61	164,100	52-53
WINGS (WHOLE)	52-53	60.46	160,200	61.63	170,400	60.60	734,720	10-12
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.04	18,680	12.27	20,640	12.18	97,040	20-25
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	15-20	24.74	14,520	28.82	15,400	25.79	78,330	35-40
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	35-40	39.84	30,280	39.84	37,080	39.71	158,985	

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL WTS	
	07/23	07/22	07/21	07/20	07/21	07/20	07/16	07/14
ALA	4,183	3,869	3,844	3,797	5.10	5.07	4,181	5.10
ARK	6,068	5,171	4,828	4,971	4.87	4.89	6,091	4.91
DELMARVA	2,457	2,455	2,448	2,407	5.02	5.00	2,425	5.08
KY-LA-TN	1,991	1,779	1,760	1,777	4.47	4.48	1,994	4.47
MISS	2,779	2,786	2,774	2,720	4.99	4.98	2,850	5.02
NC	2,572	2,581	2,554	2,579	5.63	5.59	2,732	5.69
TEXAS	2,020	2,073	2,050	2,040	4.69	4.73	2,664	4.75
TOTAL	22,070	20,714	20,258	20,291	4.99	4.99	22,937	5.02

MON-FRI 105,089(A) 104,293(A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 23-Jul and 24-Jul-99 is estimated to be 33,019,000 down 4.07 percent from a week ago and up 3.8 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 34,419,000; last year 31,818,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 24-Jul-99 is estimated to be 154,822,000 headup 13.7 percent from a week ago, and up 2.9 percent from a year ago

(Last week 136,199,000 Last year 150,431,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	82-84
ROASTERS 4# & UP	82-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	83-91
DUCKS	135
RABBITS-WHOLE	334-359
RABBITS-CUT UP	351-376

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK 92-98
	DRY PACK 108
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK 104-110
	DRY PACK 118
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK 98
	ICE PACK 92
DUCKS	149-166

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending July 10, 1999 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/
Food service
4.20 Lbs & down (B) Retail 4.21-5.25 Lbs (C) Deboning 5.26 Lbs & Up

	-----THOUSANDS-----		
Head	30,422	30,884	34,471
Avg Weight	3.83	4.80	5.93
% of total /1	32%	32%	36%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	33,393	36,120	44,053
Avg Weight	3.81	4.75	5.92
% of total /1	29%	32%	39%
Same week, yr ago /2	39,680	44,558	23,819
Avg Weight	3.70	4.81	5.92
% of total /1	37%	41%	22%
To date/1999	876,867	761,680	1,180,699
To date/1998	963,129	992,984	842,013

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 17-Jul-99 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
HEAD	158,335	(A) 1,978	1,089	3,067	444
AVGWT	4.98	3.41	7.88	5.00	6.63
LAST WEEK	136,199	1,797	1,385	3,182	378
YR AGO	145,775	2,164	1,223	3,387	488
AVGWT	4.69	3.38	7.99	5.05	6.37
TO-DATE/1999	4,234,663	60,629	37,889	98,518	12,404
TO-DATE/1998	4,071,330	59,220	35,418	94,638	12,539

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 155.4 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 160.3 million head or 4.9 million head more than or 103 percent of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY-- DATE OF AUCTION JULY 20, 1999

PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

	RANGE	RANGE
Banty Hens	2.50 - 3.75ea.	Pekin Ducks .50 - .74
Banty Roosters	3.00 - 5.50ea.	Pigeons 1.75 - 2.10ea.
Bunnies	.35 - 3.25ea.	Pullets 4-6 .60 - .84
Crossbred Fowl 5-9	.50 - .83	Rabbits 4-6 .60 - 1.08
Crossbred Roosters 4-6	.30 - 1.20	Rabbits 7-11 .60 - .88
Crossbred Roosters 7-11	.30 - .98	Red Fowl 4-4.5 .60 - .78
Doves	3.50 - 5.00ea.	Red Fowl 5-6 .70 - .98
Geese 9-14	.10 - .48	Silkie 1.00 - 2.25ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.10 - 2.25	White Pigeons 2.25 - 4.00ea.
Guinea Pigs	2.50 - 5.00ea.	
Kid Goats	15.00 - 31.00ea.	
Leghorn Hens	.20 - .34	
Leghorn Roosters	.28 - .48	
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	1.00 - 1.08	
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	1.02 - 1.12	

Total Coops Sold 638

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FED-STATE FOR WEEK OF 19-JUL-99

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	134	139-140
MIDWEST	117-119	118-120

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	65-66	
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	68-83	68-73

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA,RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices remained unchanged. Trade sentiment steady. Demand was mostly fair. Sizes were desirable to instances heavy. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18 oz boneless breast at \$4.65- 5.25, legs at \$2.80-2.95, bone in legs at \$1.15-1.70, leg quarters at \$1.08-1.15, gizzards \$1.30-1.40, and wings at \$0.40-.60.

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 19-JUL-99

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	117-119	118
MOSTLY		

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
JUNE 12	153.7	154.2	100	5.04
19	158.4	154.6	102	5.11
26	161.4	154.6	104	5.05
JULY 3	162.0	154.9	105	5.02
10	137.9	154.6	89	4.94
17	160.3	155.4	103	4.98
YEAR TO DATE	4286.1	4248.4	101	
JULY 24		155.7		
31		156.4		

CALIFORNIA PLTRY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP W/E 17-Jul-99

IN THOUSANDS

Broilers 5,203 HD, 25,859 lbs., Light Hens 200 HD, 676 lbs., Heavy Hens 0 HD, 0 lbs.

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	7/24/99	7/17/99	%CHG	7/18/98	%CHG
Broilers	154,822	*136,199	+14	*150,431	+03
Cattle	693	709	-02	*662	+05
Hogs	1,761	1,898	-07	*1,814	-03

Under Federal Inspection

* ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL Prices were again irregular, but usually about unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was unaggressive for at least sufficient offerings. Undertone was mostly steady on light cannery and about steady with some caution noted on heavy cannery.

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) 24.5-26 MAJORITY CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS) 33-37 MAJORITY 34-36 26.5-29 MAJORITY 26.5-27.5
---	--

EASTERN LIGHT Prices were generally unchanged. Demand was light for continued ample offerings, even though prices have trended sharply higher on eggs. Undertone was steady with no changes in prices anticipated.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY HENS Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was light to moderate for ample offerings. Schedules were usually normal. Undertone was mixed but mostly steady.

NORTH CENTRAL LIVE LIGHT HEN Prices were unchanged. Offerings were at least adequate to ample for current processor needs. Trade sentiment steady.

WEST COAST LIGHT Plant schedules irregular as some cancellations reported due to recovering egg markets.

LIVE HENS

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

<u>HEAVY</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR	(1)
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR	(2)
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR	(1)

<u>LIGHT</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Eastern Light	0	(1)
Eastern Light	0	(2)
So. Central Light	TFEWR	(2)
No. Central Light	TFEWR	(1)
No. Central Light	0-.5	(2)
(1) Buyer Loading	(2) Producer Loading	

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT